



September 19, 2005

## COEUR D'ALENE TRIBE

CHIEF J. ALLAN, CHAIRMAN

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REFERENCE:

Dear Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Participants:

Welcome to the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual conference of the Associated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI)! The Coeur d'Alene tribe welcomes everyone to Northern Idaho, homeland of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The inland northwest has been home of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe since time immemorial, with the original territory spanning more than 4 million acres. Currently, the Coeur d'Alene reservation is home to 345,00 acres of the most pristine country in the Northwest. The reservation includes Lake Coeur d'Alene, a major tourist attraction, as well as a major economic resource for the region. I am honored as Chairman of our tribe that the tribe is serving as host to this year's annual conference. I am also very excited about the work that will be done throughout the week.

Since its inception, ATNI has worked hard to represent the interests of Northwest Indians. This week, we continue this mission. As representatives of our members, we must address the many issues facing Indian country, and work diligently to advance the interests of all member tribes of ATNI. As of late all of Indian country has been embroiled with trust reform legislation. We must not forget that there are other issues that are equally important. We must continue to advocate for all issues relevant to Indian country.

I look forward to seeing the energy that we all bring to this conference in action this week. I hope everyone enjoys his or her stay at Coeur d'Alene.

Once again, welcome, and thank you for attending this 52<sup>nd</sup> annual conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chief J. Allan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief J. Allan, Chairman  
Coeur d'Alene tribe

Cja:dfw